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NOTE FOR: DCI

FROM: D/NESA

Probably the weakest link in the tenuous cease-fire agreement in Lebanon is Jordan. It is not because Jordan does not know the threat of Palestinian infiltration or pursue it, but rather that the Palestinians themselves do not believe that the cease-fire entails a halt to their activities into the West Bank. We have had information lately that indicates PLO Chairman Arafat has called a halt to activity in the West Bank until after the April 26 Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai. The question we must ask ourselves, however, is whether Arafat can control all of the Palestinian groups and whether Syria believes it is in her interest to stop terrorist teams exiting Syria through Jordan into the West Bank. It is difficult for Arafat to come out publicly for a halt of activities on the West Bank because "the struggle" is still a key part of Fatah philosophy and cancellation of this part would likely cost him the leftist wing of Fatah. In summary, the long Jordanian border with Israel, the unclear position of Syria on West Bank activities, and Arafat's own unwillingness to take an overt position on halting activities in the West Bank, should be a cause of concern to those who worry about the breakdown of the cease-fire.

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